

PLE

PLEBEIAN. *n. f.* [plebeius, Fr. plebeius, Lat.] One of the lower people.

Let him
Hoist thee up to the shouting plebeians.
You're plebeians, if they be senators.
Upon the least intervals of peace, the quarrels between the nobles and the plebeians would revive.

Shakespeare.
Shakespeare.
Swift.
1. Popular; consisting of mean persons.
As swine are to gardens, so are tumults to parliaments, and plebeian concourses to publick councils.

King Charles.
2. Belonging to the lower ranks.
He through the midst unmark'd,
In shew plebeian angel militant
Of lowest order.

Milton's Par. Lost, b. x.
3. Vulgar; low; common.
To apply notions philosophical to plebeian terms; or to say, where the notions cannot fitly be reconciled, that there wanteth a term or nomenclature for it, as the ancients used, they be but shifts of ignorance.

Bacon's Nat. Hist.
The differences of mouldable and not mouldable, scissible and not scissible are plebeian notions.
Dis honour not the vengeance I design'd.
A queen! and own a base plebeian mind!

Dryden.
PLEDGE. *n. f.* [plege, Fr. pieggio, Italian.]
1. Any thing put to pawn.
2. A gage; any thing given by way of warrant or security; a pawn.

These men at the first were only pitied; the great humility, zeal and devotion, which appeared to be in them, was in all men's opinion a pledge of their harmless meaning.
If none appear to prove upon thy person
Thy heinous, manifest and many treasons;
There is my pledge, I'll prove it on thy heart.

Shakespeare.
That voice their liveliest pledge
Of hope in fears and dangers.
Money is necessary both for counters and for pledges, and carrying with it even reckoning and security.

Locke.
Hymen shall be aton'd, shall join two hearts,
And Aribert shall be the pledge of peace.
3. A surety; a bail; an hostage.

Rowe.
What purpose could there be of treason, when the Guianians offered to leave pledges, six for one.
Good sureties will we have for thy return,
And at thy pledges peril keep thy day.

Dryden.
To PLEDGE. *v. a.* [pleger, Fr. piegiare, Italian.]
1. To put in pawn.
Asleep and naked as an Indian lay,
An honest factor stole a gem away;
He pledg'd it to the knight; the knight had wit,
So kept the diamond.

Pope.
2. To give a warrant or security.
3. To secure by a pledge.
I accept her;
And here to pledge my vow, I give my hand.

Shakespeare.
4. To invite to drink, by accepting the cup or health after another.
The fellow, that
Parts bread with him, and pledges
The breath of him in a divided draught,
Is th' readiest man to kill him.

Shakespeare. Timon of Athens.
To you noble lord of Westmoreland.
—I pledge your grace.
That sexanxious orator began the king of Homebia's health; he presently pledg'd it.

Havell's Vocal Forge.
PLEDGET. *n. f.* [plagge, Dutch.] A small mass of lint.
I applied a pledget of basilicon.

Wise man's Surgery.
PLEIADS. *n. f.* [pleiades, Lat. πλειάδες.] A northern constellation.
The pleiades before him danc'd,
Shedding sweet influence.

Milton.
Then sailors quarter'd heav'n, and found a name
For pleiads, hyads and the northern car.

Dryden.
PLENARILY. *adv.* [from plenary.] Fully; completely.
The cause is made a plenary cause, and ought to be determined plenarily.

Ayliffe's Parergon.
PLENARY. *adj.* [from plenus, Lat.] Full; complete.
I am far from denying that compliance on my part, for plenary consent it was not, to his destruction.

King Charles.
The cause is made a plenary cause.
A treatise on a subject should be plenary or full, so that nothing may be wanting, nothing which is proper omitted.

Watts.
PLENARY. *n. f.* Decisive procedure.
A bare institution without induction does not make a plenary against the king, where he has a title to present.

Ayliffe.
PLENARINESS. *n. f.* [from plenary.] Fullness; completeness.
PLENILUNARY. *adj.* [from plenilunium, Lat.] Relating to the full moon.

If we add the two Egyptian days in every month, the interlunary and plenilunary exemptions, there would arise above an hundred more.

Brown's Vulgar Errors.

PLE

PLENIPOTENCE. *n. f.* [from plenus and potentia, Lat.] Fullness of power.

PLENIPOTENT. *adj.* [plenipotens, Lat.] Invested with full power.

My substitutes I send you, and create
Plenipotens on earth, of matchless might
Issuing from me.

Milton's Par. Lost, b. x.
PLENIPOTENTIARY. *n. f.* [plenipotentarius, Fr.] A negotiator invested with full power.

They were only the plenipotentiary monks of the patriarchal monks.

PLENIST. *n. f.* [from plenus, Lat.] One that holds all space to be full of matter.

Those spaces, which the vacuists would have empty, because devoid of air, the plenists do not prove replenished with subtle matter by any sensible effects.

PLENITUDE. *n. f.* [plenitudo, from plenus, Lat. plenitudo, Fr.] 1. Fullness; the contrary to vacuity.

If there were every where an absolute plenitude and density without any pores between the particles of bodies, all bodies of equal dimensions would contain an equal quantity of matter, and consequently be equally ponderous.

2. Repletion; a zimal fullness; plenthy.

3. Exuberance; abundance.

4. Completeness.

The plenitude of William's fame
Can no accumulated foetus receive.

Prior.
PLENITUDE. *adj.* [from plent.] 1. Copious; exuberant; abundant.

Author of evil, unknown till thy revolt
Now plentuous these acts of hateful strife.

Milton.
Two plentuous fountains the whole prospect crown'd
This through the gardens leads its streams around.

Pope.
2. Fruitful; fertile.
Take up the fifth part of the land in the seven plentuous years.

Genesis xli. 34.
Lab'ring the soil and reaping plentuous crop.

Milton.
PLENTEOUSLY. *adv.* [from plentuous.] Copiously; abundantly; exuberantly.

Thy due from me is tears,
Which nature, love and filial tenderness
Shall, O dear father, pay thee plentiously.

Shakespeare.
God created the great whales and each
Soul living, each that crept, which plentiously
The waters generated.

Milton's Par. Lost, b. vii.
God proves us in this life, that he may the more plentiously reward us in the next.

Watts's Preparation for Death.
PLENTEOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from plentuous.] Abundance; fertility.

The seven years of plentuousness in Egypt were ended.

Genesis.
PLENTIFUL. *adj.* [plenty and full.] Copious; abundant; exuberant; fruitful.

To Amalthea he gave a country, bending like a horn;
whence the tale of Amalthea's plentiful horn.

Raleigh.
He that is plentiful in expences, will hardly be respected from decay.

Bacon's Essays.
If it be a long winter, it is commonly a more plentiful year.

Bacon's Nat. Hist.
When they had a plentiful harvest, the farmer had hardly any corn.

Alciades was a young man of noble birth, excellent education and a plentiful fortune.

Swift.
PLENTIFULLY. *adv.* [from plentiful.] Copiously; abundantly.

They were not multiplied before, but they were at that time plentifully increased.

Brown's Vulgar Errors.
Bern is plentifully furnished with water, there being a great multitude of fountains.

ADDISON'S Remarks on Italy.
PLENTIFULNESS. *n. f.* [from plentiful.] The state of being plentiful; abundance; fertility.

PLENTY. *n. f.* [from plenus, full.] 1. Abundance; such a quantity as is more than enough.

Peace.
Dear nurse of arts, plenties and joyful birth.

Shakespeare.
What makes land, as well as other things, dear, is plenty of buyers, and but few sellers; and to plenty of sellers and few buyers makes land cheap.

Locke.
2. Fruitfulness; exuberance.
The teeming clouds
Descend in gladness plenty o'er the world.

Thomson.
3. It is used, I think, barbarously for plentiful.
To graze with thy calves,
Where water is plenty.

Tupper's Hospitality.
If reasons were as plenty as black berries, I would give you a reason on compulsion.

Shakespeare. Henry IV.
4. A state in which enough is had and enjoyed.
Ye shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the Lord.

Job x. 20.

PLI

PLEONASM. *n. f.* [pleonasmus, Fr. pleonasmus, Lat.] A figure of rhetoric, by which more words are used than are necessary.

PLESH. *n. f.* [A word used by Spenser instead of plesh, for the convenience of rhyme.] A puddle; a boggy marsh.

Out of the wound the red blood flowed fresh,
That underneath his feet soon made a purple plesh.

Spenser.
PLETHORA. *n. f.* [from πλεθώρα.] The state in which the vessels are fuller of humours than is agreeable to a natural state or health; arises either from a diminution of some natural evacuations, or from debauch and feeding higher or more in quantity than the ordinary powers of the viscera can digest: evacuations and exercise are its remedies.

The diseases of the fluids are a plethora, or too great abundance of laudable juices.

Arbutnot on Aliments.
PLETHORETICK. *adj.* [from plethora.] Having a full habit.

PLETHORICK. *adj.* [from plethora.] Having a full habit.

The fluids, as they consist of spirit, water, salts, oil and terrestrial parts, differ according to the redundancy of the whole or of any of these; and therefore the plethorick are phlegmatick, oily, saline, earthy or dry.

Arbutnot.
PLETHORY. *n. f.* [plethore, Fr. from πλεθώρα.] Fullness of habit.

In too great repletion, the elastic force of the tube throws the fluid with too great a force, and subjects the animal to the diseases depending upon a plethora.

Arbutnot.
PLEVIN. *n. f.* [plevine, Fr. plevina, law Lat.] In law, a warrant or assurance. See REPLEVIN.

PLEURISY. *n. f.* [πleuritis; pleuritis, Fr. pleuritis, Lat.] Pleurisy is an inflammation of the pleura, though it is hardly distinguishable from an inflammation of any other part of the breast, which are all from the same cause, a stagnated blood; and are to be remedied by evacuation, suppuration or expectoration, or all together.

Quincy.
PLEURITICAL. *adj.* [from pleurisy.]

PLEURITICK. *adj.* [from pleurisy.]

1. Diseased with a pleurisy.

The viscous matter, which lies like leather upon the extravasated blood of pleuritical people, may be dissolved by a due degree of heat.

Arbutnot on Aliments.
2. Denoting a pleurisy.

His blood was pleuritical, it had neither colour nor consistence.

Wise man's Surgery.
PLIABLE. *adj.* [pliable, from plier, Fr. to bend.]

1. Easy to be bent; flexible.

Though an act be never so sinful, they will strip it of its guilt, and make the very law so pliable and bending, that it shall be impossible to be broke.

South's Sermons.
Whether the different motions of the animal spirits may have any effect on the mould of the face, when the lineaments are pliable and tender, I shall leave to the curious.

ADD.
2. Flexible of disposition; easy to be persuaded.

PLIABLENESS. *n. f.* [from pliable.]

1. Flexibility; easiness to be bent.

2. Flexibility of mind.

Compare the ingenious pliability of virtuous counsels in youth, as it comes fresh out of the hands of nature, with the confirmed obstinacy in most sorts of sin, that is to be found in an aged sinner.

South's Sermons.
PLIANCY. *n. f.* [from pliant.] Easiness to be bent.

Had not exercise been necessary, nature would not have given such an activity to the limbs, and such a pliancy to every part, as produces those compressions and extensions necessary for the preservation of such a system.

ADDISON'S Spectator.
PLIANT. *adj.* [pliant, French.]

1. Bending; tough; flexible; pliant; lithe; limber.

An auctionist promised to dissect a woman's tongue, and examine whether the fibres may not be made up of a finer and more pliant thread.

ADDISON'S Spectator, No 247.
2. Easy to take a form.

Particles of heavenly fire,
Or earth but new divided from the sky,
And pliant still retain'd th' ethereal energy.

Dryden.
As the wax melts that to the flame I hold,
Pliant and warm may still her heart remain,
So to the print, but ne'er turn hard again.

Graville.
3. Easily complying.

In languages the tongue is more pliant to all sounds, the joints more supple to all feats of activity, in youth than afterwards.

Bacon's Essays.
Those, who bore bulwarks on their backs,
Now practise ev'ry pliant gesture,
Op'ning their trunk for ev'ry tester.

Swift's Miscel.
4. Easily persuaded.

The will was then ductile and pliant to right reason, it met the dictates of a clarified understanding halfway.

South.
PLIANTNESS. *n. f.* [from pliant.] Flexibility; toughness.

Greatness of weight, closeness of parts, fixation, pliantness or softness.

Bacon's Nat. Hist.
PLICATURE. *n. f.* [plicatura, from plico, Lat.] Fold; double.

PLICATION. *n. f.* Plication is used somewhere in Clarissa.

PLIERS. *n. f.* [from ply.] An instrument by which any thing is laid hold on to bend it.

PLO

Pliers are of two sorts, flat-nosed and round-nosed; their office is to hold and fasten upon a small work, and to fit it in its place: the round-nosed pliers are used for turning or boring wire or small plate into a circular form.

Mexon.
I made a detention by a small pair of pliers.

Wise man.
To PLIGHT. *v. a.* [plichten, Dutch.]

1. To pledge; to give a surety.
He plight'd his right hand
Unto another love, and to another land.

Fairy Queen.
Saint Withold
Met the night mare, and her name told,
Bid her alight, and her troth plight.

Shakespeare. King Lear.
I again in Henry's royal name,
Give thee her hand for sign of plight'd faith.

Shakespeare.
Here my inviolable faith I plight,
Lo, thou be my defence, I, thy delight.

Dryden.
New loves you seek
New vows to plight, and plight'd vows to break.

Dryden.
I'll never mix my plight'd hands with thine,
While such a cloud of mischiefs hangs about us.

ADDISON.
2. To braid; to weave. [from plio, Lat. whence to ply or bend, and plight, pleight or plait, a fold or flexure.]
Her head she fondly would agitate
With gaudie girlonds, or fresh flowrets dight
About her neck, or rings of rushes plight.

Fairy Queen.
I took it for a fairy vision
Of some gay creatures of the clement,
That in the colours of the rainbow live,
And play i' th' plight'd clouds.

Milton.
PLIGHT. *n. f.* [This word kimmer imagines to be derived from the Dutch, plier, office or employment; but Tania obsevat, that plier, Saxon, signifies distress or pain; whence, I suppose, plight was derived, it being generally used in a bad sense.]

1. Condition; state.

When as the careful dwarf had told,
And made ensample of their mournful night
Unto his master, he no longer would
There dwell in peril of like painful plight.

Fa. Queen.
I think myself in better plight for a lender than you are.

Shakespeare.
Beseech your highness,
My women may be with me; for, you see,
My plight requires it.

Shakespeare. Winter's Tale.
They in lowliest plight repentant stood
Praying.

Milton's Par. Lost, b. xi.
Thou must not here
Lie in this miserable loathsome plight.

Milton.
Most perfect hero tried in heaviliest plight
Of labours huge and hard.

Milton.
2. Good case.

Who abuseth his cattle and starves them for meat,
By carting or plowing, his gain is not great;
Where he that with labour can use them aright,
Hath gain to his comfort and cattle in plight.

Tupper.
3. Pledge; gage. [from the verb.]
That lord, whose hand must take my plight, shall carry
Half my love with him, half my care and duty.

Shakespeare.
4. [From to plight.] A fold; a pucker; a double; a purtle; a plait.

Yclad, for fear of scorching air,
All in a silken camus, lilly white,
Pursled upon with many a folded plight.

Fairy Queen.
PLINTH. *n. f.* [πλινθίς.] In architecture, is that square member which serves as a foundation to the base of a pillar; Vitruvius calls the upper part or abacus of the Tuscan pillar, a plinth, because it resembles a square tile: moreover, the same denomination is sometimes given to a thick wall, wherein there are two or three bricks advanced in form of a plait-band.

Harris.
To PLOD. *v. n.* [ploeghen, Dutch. Skinner.]

1. To toil; to maul; to drudge; to travel.

A plodding diligence brings us sooner to our journey's end, than a fluttering way of advancing by starts.

L'Estrange.
He knows better than any man, what is not to be written; and never hazards himself so far as to fall, but plods on deliberately, and, as a grave man ought, puts his staff before him.

Dryden's State of Innocence.
Th' unletter'd christian, who believes in grois,
Plods on to heav'n, and ne'er is at a loss.

Dryden.
2. To travel laboriously.
Rogues, plod away o' the hoof, seek shelter, pack.

Shakespeare. Cymbeline.
If one of mean affairs
May plod it in a week, why may not I
Glide thither in a day.

Shakespeare.
Hast thou not held my stirrup?
Bare-headed, plodded by my foot-cloth mule,
And thought thee happy when I shook my head?

Shakespeare.
Ambitious love hath in me offended,
That barefoot plod I the cold ground upon,
With faintest vow my faults to have amended.

Shakespeare.
3. To study.